

Ward 6 NPA Minutes and Attendance, Thursday, November 4, 2021

ATTENDANCE

Rachel Furnari	Rob Backus	Eileen Underwood	Mary Gade
Dale Azaria	James Sherrard	Connie Krosney	Greg Guma
Kesha Ram Hinsdale	Karen Paul	Matt Grady	Jeff Padgett
Karla Ferrelli	Rama Kocherlakota	Brian Pine	Nelson Martelle
Rep. Stebbins	Kirsten Wilson	Francine Cohen	Sandy Yusen
Tiff Bluemle	Alexandra Bower	Tree Spaulding	Joel Fitzgerald

Redistricting

Kesha Ram Hinsdale: City process, House process and Senate process for voter redistricting; we need to maintain one person-one vote.

Gabrielle Stebbins: important to have voices from different constituents; if districts are too small, we lose diversity of views. Also hard to get diverse representatives because it's a difficult job for someone, like a single mother, to hold due to low pay.

Rama: he's gathering input from Ward 6 residents on redistricting preferences and will forward info to City Council. Will be changes in Ward 6 boundaries because of population changes.

Kesha: House process for redistricting will last for the whole session; new challenges for redistricting the Senate, which will be figured out during the second half of the legislative session.

Karen: introduced a resolution to make redistricting process easier. All councilors agreed to this process. Good place to start with consensus. A mapping consultant will take input from ad hoc committee and council to redraw council districts. Karen encourages all residents to provide feedback because this is a really important issue.

Kesha: City can take a position separate from legislators and can sway the outcome for Senate boundaries.

CityPlace

Update on project by Brian Pine. Devonwood/Don Sinex, Scott Ireland, Dave Farrington and Al Senecal are partners.

Development is on private property and is a private project. Only public portion are the streets that will be reconnected through the project site.

The City and Redstone both brought lawsuits against CityPlace. All lawsuits are resolved and project has local permits granted. Milestones reached this summer on license agreements and stormwater plans through MOU. December 2022 is deadline for design for public improvements; must be contracted for construction by March 2022; TIFF bonds must be issued by June 2022; construction must commence in December 2022. Legal action may come if deadlines aren't met at end of 2022. CityPlace hopes to commence construction this spring.

Legal hurdles were significant in the project and caused delays; difficult time to finance projects.

Brian has strong confidence that Burlington's market is strong enough to support the project.

Local partners help the project move forward because of their experience with local permitting.

Demand for housing is strong in Burlington and Brian sees a good chance of this project moving along.

Bioretention Systems/Rain gardens

James Sherrard, Stormwater Program Coordinator. Burlington is surrounded by Lake Champlain and Winooski River. A lot of the city deals with combined sewer. 3 waste-water treatment plants. 100 year-old system which DPW is trying to manage.

City has both a Separate and a Combined sewer system. City is meeting water quality requirements through review of the whole system.

City got grant funds to support bioretention project, with no local match required. 15 systems built in South End. Old North End will use different technology. Most active overflow site is at the barge canal. Traffic calming was secondary benefit of retention systems.

Systems provide various benefits: pulls out things to improve water quality; infiltrates runoff; and detains runoff. Two styles, Type A and Type B.

Microbursts common in City and can trigger a system overflow. They are coming in greater intensity, but there are fewer. Lots of rainfall in short periods of time.

Overflows are the mixing of sanitary waste and storm runoff. DPW is reviewing and analyzing data. Retention systems are doing well. Residents have sent videos to show performance during storms.

Crossing Guards

Director of Parking and Traffic, Jeff Padgett, giving a plug for crossing guards. There are 33 crossing locations across city. Only 15 are being staffed. Morning and afternoon shifts, before and after school. Guards are paid \$171/week. Safety clothing and training is provided. (See attached document.)

Rachel and Serena Furnari

Planning to purchase property at 251-253 South Union. Converting property from commercial to residential. Currently a law office. It's currently commercial and non-conforming; project will bring it into conformance. Would include 10 apartments; portion for lower and moderate income renters. Site is quite large and has a lot of parking.